OCT 1 2 2004

Attorney Docket No. YPI/02-110 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner

Paul V. Ward

Group

1623

Applicants

Ronald Knegtel et al.

Serial No.

10/609,147

Confirmation No.

6705

Filed

June 27, 2003

For

CASPASE INHIBITORS AND USES THEREOF

Cambridge, Massachusetts

October 12, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O.Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1), applicants hereby petition for a two month extension of time to respond to the Office Action setting forth an election/restriction requirement dated July 14, 2004. With the extension, a response is due on or before October 14, 2004.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fee of \$420.00 that is due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3) to Deposit Account No. 50-0725. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael C. Badia

Reg. No. 51,424

Attorney for Applicants

c/o Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated,

130 Waverly Street

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tel: (617) 444-6396

Fax: (617) 444-6483

Fax: (617) 444-048

PAGE 2/22 * RCVD AT 10/12/2004 3:05:14 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * 8VR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/5 * DNIB:8729305 * CSID: * DURATION (mm-as):08-28

1252 - 430

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

430,00 00

10/15/2004 FMERCER 00000006 500725

1 FC:1252